



NEWS RELEASE

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***UPDATED* NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Caltrans Revises Temporary Closure of "State Beaches" Off-Ramp on Northbound US Highway 101 in Ventura County

Temporary Restriction Applies to Trucks Only

VENTURA — On Saturday, July 23, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) revised a temporary closure of the Northbound US Highway 101 "State Beaches" off-ramp to Pacific Coast Highway, north of Ventura.

Cars are allowed to use the ramp, effective Saturday, though trucks still are restricted on the northbound exit. On Friday, Caltrans had announced the ramp would be closed to all vehicles for approximately two weeks.

Caltrans expects the ramp will remain closed to trucks until new weight limits are posted at a nearby PCH (State Route 1) bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad. Caltrans engineers recently determined that the bridge currently does not meet the maximum legal truck weight limit near the edge of the bridge. The new, posted safe load capacity of the bridge will be 10 tons per truck, 13 tons per semi-trailer combination, and 15 tons per truck and full trailer.

Caltrans plans to restripe the lanes on the bridge to shift traffic toward the center of the bridge and away from the edge of the bridge. The restriping will ensure the structure meets current requirements for public safety and is safe for travelers to use.

The bridge over the railroad was built in 1934 and widened in 1961. Caltrans plans to replace the bridge, with an estimated completion date of approximately 2022 and a cost of \$8.2 million including design and construction. Caltrans is trying to accelerate the project, which would be paid for by federal and state funds.

As required by the California Vehicle Code, Caltrans will place signs within 500 feet of either end of the bridge to indicate the new posted safe load capacity. The signs are expected to be in place within the next two weeks. Caltrans reminds motorists to drive safely and **"Be Work Zone Alert."**

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BE WORK ZONE ALERT

